

Office of the Secretary of Labor

§ 90.13

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(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1205-0192)

[42 FR 32772, June 28, 1977, as amended at 49 FR 18295, Apr. 30, 1984; 52 FR 23401, June 19, 1987]

§ 90.12 Investigation.

Upon receipt of a petition, properly filed and verified, the Director of the Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance shall promptly publish notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER that the petition has been received. The Director shall initiate, or order to be initiated, such investigation as he determines to be necessary and appropriate. The investigation may include one or more field visits to confirm information furnished by the petitioner(s) and to elicit other relevant information. In the course of any investigation, representatives of the Department shall be authorized to contact and meet with responsible officials of firms, union officials, employees, and any other persons, or organizations, both private and public, as may be necessary to marshal all relevant facts to make a determination on the petition.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control numbers 1205-0197, 1205-0190, 1205-0191)

[52 FR 23401, June 19, 1987]

§ 90.13 Public hearings.

(a) *When held.* A public hearing shall be held in connection with an investigation instituted under § 90.12 whenever, not later than ten (10) days after the date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the notice of receipt of the petition, such a hearing is requested in writing by:

(1) The petitioner; or

(2) Any other person found by the Director or Deputy Director to have a substantial interest in the proceedings. Such petitioner and other interested persons shall be afforded an opportunity to be present, to produce evidence, and to be heard.

(b) *Form of request.* A request for public hearing shall be filed in the same manner as provided for filing of petitions and other documents under

§ 90.31(a). A request by a person other than the petitioner shall contain:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the person, organization, or group requesting the hearing; and

(2) A complete statement of the relationship of the person, organization, or group requesting the hearing to the petitioner or the subject matter of the petition and a statement of the nature of its interest in the proceeding.

(c) *Time and place.* Public hearings will be held at the time and place specified in a notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Such notice shall be published at least seven (7) calendar days before the scheduled hearing.

(d) *Presiding officer.* The Director or Deputy Director shall conduct and preside over public hearings.

(e) *Order of testimony.* Witnesses will testify in the order designated by the presiding officer. Each witness, after being duly sworn, will proceed with testimony. After testifying, a witness may be questioned by the presiding officer or an agent designated by the presiding officer. Any person who has entered an appearance in accordance with paragraph (j) of this section may direct questions to the witness, but only for the purpose of assisting the presiding officer in obtaining relevant and material facts with respect to the subject matter of the hearing.

(f) *Evidence.* Witnesses may produce evidence of a relevant and material nature to the subject matter of the hearing.

(g) *Briefs.* Briefs of the evidence produced at the hearing and arguments thereon may be presented to the presiding officer by parties who have entered an appearance. Three (3) copies of such briefs shall be filed with the presiding officer within ten (10) days of the completion of the hearing.

(h) *Oral argument.* The presiding officer shall provide opportunity for oral argument after conclusion of the testimony in a hearing. The presiding officer will determine in each instance the time to be allowed for argument and the allocation thereof.

(i) *Authentication of evidence.* Evidence, oral or written, submitted at hearings, will upon order of the presiding officer be subject to verification from books, papers, and records of the

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parties submitting such evidence and from any other available sources.

(j) *Transcripts.* All hearings will be stenographically reported. Persons interested in transcripts of the hearings may inspect them at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, DC, or purchase copies as provided in 29 CFR 70.62(c).

(k) *Appearances.* The petitioner or any other person showing a substantial interest in the proceedings may enter an appearance at a hearing, either in person or by a duly authorized representative.

[42 FR 32772, June 28, 1977, as amended at 52 FR 23401, June 19, 1987]

§ 90.14 Subpoena power.

(a) The Director or Deputy Director may require, by subpoena, in connection with any investigation or hearing, the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence the issuing official in his or her discretion deems necessary to make a determination.

(b) If a person refuses to obey a subpoena issued under paragraph (a) of this section, the Director or Deputy Director may petition the United States District Court within the jurisdiction of which the proceeding is being conducted requesting an order requiring compliance with such subpoena.

(c) Witnesses subpoenaed under this section shall be paid the same fees and mileage as are paid for like services in the District Court of the United States. The witness fees and mileage shall be paid by the United States Department of Labor.

(d) Subpoenas issued under paragraph (a) of this section shall be signed by the Director or Deputy Director and shall be served either in person by an authorized representative of the Department of Labor or by certified mail, return receipt requested. The date for compliance shall be not earlier than seven (7) calendar days following service of the subpoena.

[42 FR 32772, June 28, 1977, as amended at 52 FR 23401, June 19, 1987]

29 CFR Subtitle A (7-1-06 Edition)

§ 90.15 [Reserved]

§ 90.16 Determinations and certifications of eligibility to apply for adjustment assistance.

(a) *General.* Within 60 days after the date of filing of a petition, a certifying officer shall make a determination on the petition. If, however, for any reason, a certifying officer has not made a determination in 60 days after the date of filing of the petition, the certifying officer shall make the determination as soon thereafter as possible. If the determination is affirmative, the certifying officer shall issue a certification of eligibility as provided in paragraphs (b), (c), (d) and (g) of this section. If the determination is negative, the certifying officer shall issue a notice of negative determination as provided in paragraphs (b) and (f) of this section.

(b) *Requirements for determinations.* After reviewing the relevant information necessary to make a determination, the certifying officer shall make findings of fact concerning whether:

(1) A significant number or proportion of the workers in such workers' firm (or an appropriate subdivision of the firm) have become, or are threatened to become, totally or partially separated;

(2) Sales or production, or both, of such firm or subdivision have decreased absolutely; and

(3) Increases (absolute or relative) of imports of articles like or directly competitive with articles produced by such workers' firm or an appropriate subdivision thereof contributed importantly to such total or partial separation, or threat thereof, and to such decline in sales or production. For purposes of this paragraph and part, the term *contributed importantly* means a cause which is important but not necessarily more important than any other cause.

(c) *Notice of affirmative determination and certification of eligibility.* Upon reaching a determination on a petition that a group of workers has met all the requirements set forth in section 222 of the Act and paragraph (b) of this section, the certifying officer shall issue a certification of eligibility to apply for adjustment assistance and shall